

FISCAL NOTE

HB 3200 - SB 3379

February 1, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires county clerks to report to the Department of Safety (DOS) that a driver's education or improvement course has been completed upon a driver's certification being provided to the court clerk. Requires DOS to maintain specified records concerning accident reports, abstracts of court records of convictions, and driver education or improvement course completion certifications.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$15,000 / One-Time
\$70,600 / Recurring**

Increase Local Gov't. Expenditures* - Exceeds \$100,000

Assumptions:

- According to DOS, approximately 50% of drivers charged with moving traffic violations are convicted and the other 50% are allowed to attend traffic safety courses for the purpose of having charges dismissed.
- DOS currently receives 450,000 notices for convictions per year. Therefore, an additional 450,000 individuals are allowed to complete traffic safety courses.
- This bill would require individuals who have completed traffic safety courses to first report directly to court clerks and the court clerks would then be required to report to DOS.
- According to the Comptroller, court clerks are notified only when individuals do not attend such courses. If the court clerks are required to report on all individuals completing such courses, local government expenditures would increase by an unknown amount. Given the number of individuals attending such courses each year, such increase to local government expenditures is estimated to exceed \$100,000 per year.
- According to DOS, the department would receive an additional 450,000 notices each year for the individuals who have completed traffic safety courses. The department estimates that 40% of these (or 180,000)

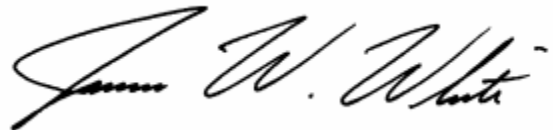
would require manual data entry. As a result, the department would require two additional positions for coding and entering notices of completion received from the court clerks.

- The recurring increase to state expenditures for the two positions is estimated to be \$70,600 per year (\$46,300 for salary; \$19,900 for benefits; \$4,400 for communications, supplies, etc.). The one-time increase of state expenditures associated with the two additional positions is estimated to be \$2,000 (for computers).
- According to DOS, computer enhancements and software modifications would be required. Such one-time state expenditures are estimated to be \$13,000.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/rnc